SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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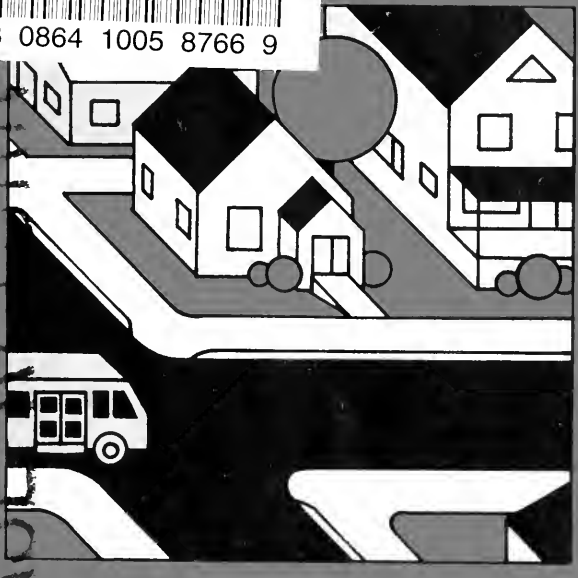

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Do you know anyone with mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism or epilepsy?

If you do, Montana's service network for developmental disabilities may be able to help them.

SEP 6 1988

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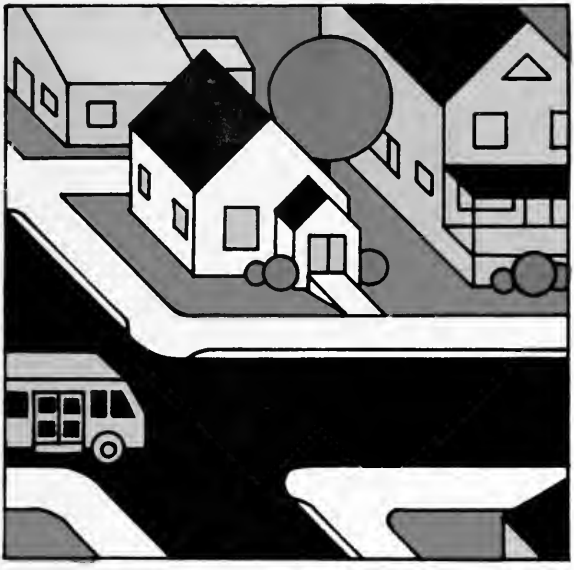


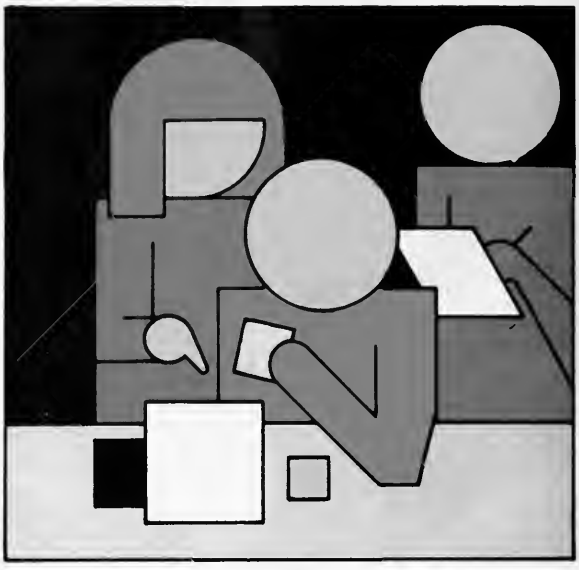
SERVICE TO MONTANANS

Many Montana communities, large and small, offer an array of services to people with substantial handicaps caused by mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy and autism. These conditions are referred to as developmental disabilities.

Through these services people with developmental disabilities may

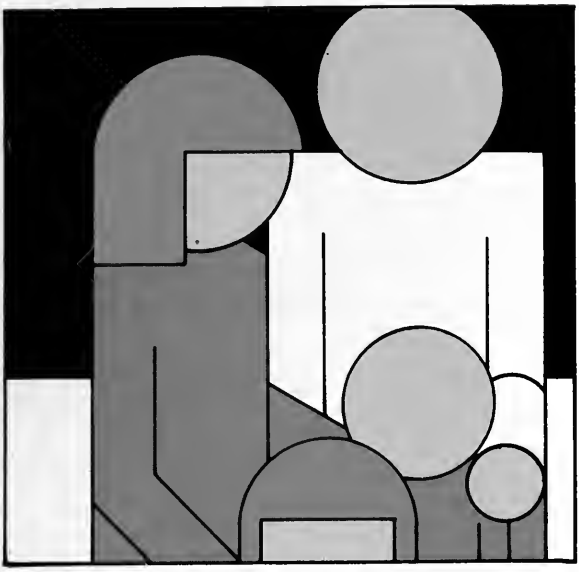
- live with natural or foster families or in community group homes appropriate to their age and level of development
- receive training in programs that fit their age and developing skills
- enjoy leisure and recreation activities, individually and in groups, often provided as part of community-wide events

Montana is committed to serving its developmentally disabled citizens in the most appropriate setting. Through local training, residential and recreational programs, these citizens have an alternative to institutional care. These local programs, administered by the Developmental Disabilities Division, increase the independence of the people they serve.



EVALUATION AND DIAGNOSIS

Skilled observation and testing provides information needed to assess the areas of an individual's development delays and to plan specific services for these people and their families. Evaluation and diagnostic services are of special importance for infants and small children.



SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Family Training

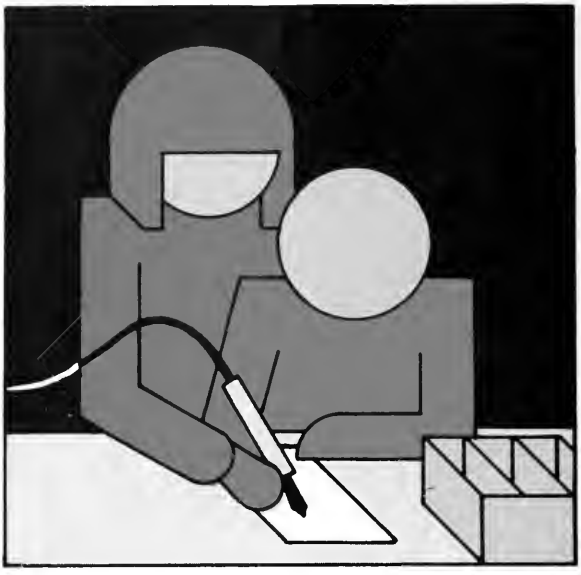
Professional trainers help families teach their children basic self-care, social and academic skills to maximize their children's development. Help is also provided families to deal with a variety of the problems which sometimes result from living with a handicapped child.

Respite Care

Parents receive temporary relief from the continual care of their disabled child.

Children's Community Homes

Care and training is provided for severely handicapped children whose service needs are so extensive they are not or cannot be met in their natural or foster family homes. These children are provided physical care in home-like settings and trained in self-help and social skills.



ADULT RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

Residential services provide a continuum of living arrangements for adults to help them acquire skills that increase their personal independence. Clients receive specialized training in small residences within communities to enable them to achieve their fullest potential. All residents receive some sort of day habilitation as part of their training plan.

Adult Intensive Training Community Homes

These homes prepare clients to live in less restrictive group homes. Clients receive intensive training focused on improving their self-help skills or managing severe problem behaviors. These homes, with high staff-to-client ratios, provide very individualized, structured training and supervision.

Adult Community Homes

Training offered here covers personal care, cooking, housekeeping, money management and leisure time skills. Staff provide supervision and

training to enable clients to move to more independent settings.

Senior Adult Community Homes

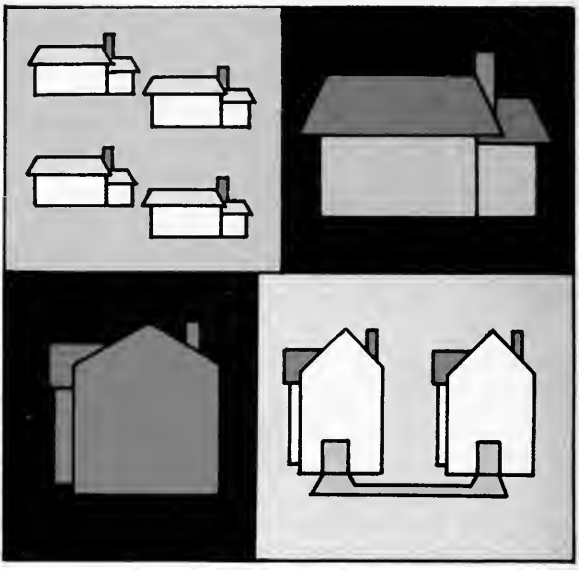
Staff provide general care, supervision, guidance, organized group activities, maintenance of self-help and social skills and training in leisure activities. This service was developed to prevent needless placement in nursing homes.

Transitional Living Training Services

This offers a step between community homes and independent living. Clients live in apartments with at least one other client. They do their own cooking and shopping. Staff are available to train and provide some supervision to clients to help them develop the skills they need to live independently.

Independent Living Training Services

This program extends outreach support to clients who, with a minimal amount of help, can live on their own in the community. Staff visit clients in the evenings and on weekends to offer training in areas such as menu planning, shopping and money management.



DAY HABILITATION FOR ADULTS

Day training programs enable clients to move toward residential and work settings which offer increasing levels of independence.

Developmental Centers

Clients who are lower-functioning learn pre-work and self-care skills they need to move to other vocational day services.

Work Activity Centers

Clients receive training in academic, self-help and job skills directly related to independent functioning in the community. Centers offer paid work and help clients prepare to move into sheltered workshops, vocational rehabilitation programs or competitive employment in the community.

Sheltered Workshops

These workshops are similar to work activity centers, except that more work is available at higher wages. These programs have more

potential for client placement in vocational rehabilitation programs or competitive employment.

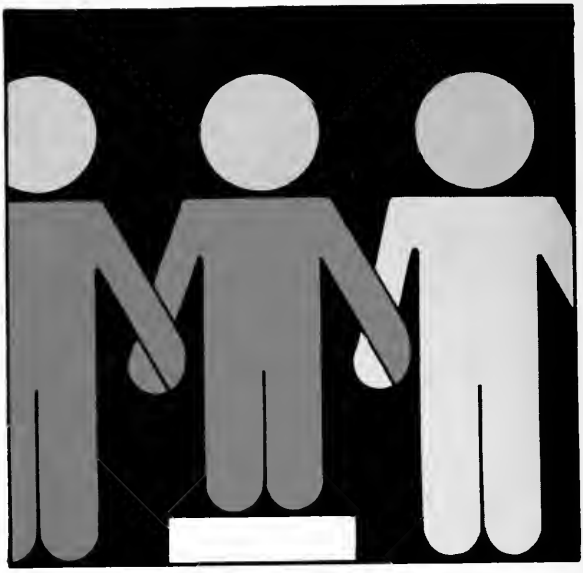
Senior Day Services

Informal group and individual training programs and activities maintain client self-help skills, develop leisure skills and improve social skills. These programs offer age-appropriate activities and training in non-work skills. As with Senior Adult Community Homes, these programs are provided to help prevent needless placement in nursing homes.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you want to know more, contact the nearest agency listed below or call the Developmental Disabilities Division in Helena at 444-2995.

CITY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Billings	1211 Grand Ave. 59101	252-5601
Butte	517 E. Front 59701	782-2323
Glasgow	334 W. Court St. 59230	228-8264
Great Falls	1818 10th Ave. S. 59405	727-7740
Helena	111 Sanders P.O. Box 4210 59604	449-3331
Kalispell	P.O. Box 216 Glacier Bldg. 59901	755-5950
Miles City	P.O. Box 880 708 Palmer 59301	232-2595
Missoula	1048 Burlington 59801	721-4910



Community Living

It's important to realize that people with developmental disabilities can be helped to reach their developmental potential in home and work settings that offer them maximum freedom and independence. They, along with their neighbors, can enjoy the opportunities community living offers.

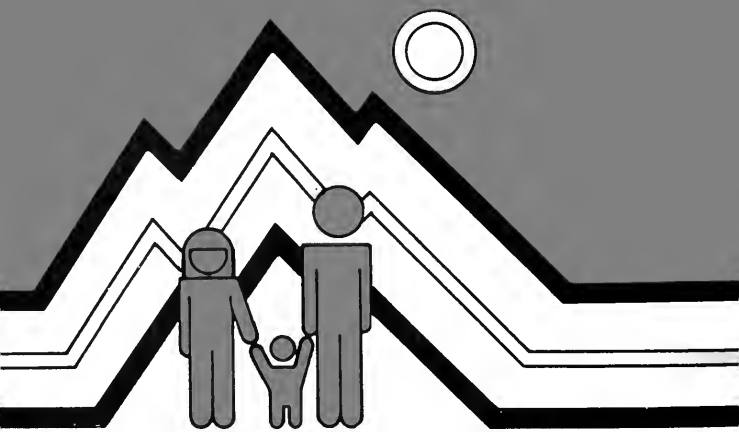
Ongoing Research

Most of these services have been designed to meet the needs of people with mental retardation. On-going research and the potential for appropriate funding may spark the growth of new programs. For example, more services can be expected for people with brain stem injuries, physical handicaps, and other disabilities.

Waiting Lists

While the number of individuals receiving community-based services has increased substantially during the past ten years, people still need services. Among the services most in demand are:

Vocational Programs	- 266 individuals
Group Homes	- 203 individuals
Family Services	- 96 individuals



DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES
P.O. Box 4210, 111 No. Sanders St., Helena, Montana 59604

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